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SECURITY COUNCIL
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Letter dated 9 January 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, and further to our earlier letters concerning Israel's attacks on southern Lebanon and the Western Bekaa and the arbitrary practices against the civilian inhabitants in which it engages on a daily basis, I have the honour to notify you of the series of such incidents that took place in December 1997.

1 December 1997

At 1530 hours Israeli military aircraft made medium-altitude overflights of the Iqlim al-Tuffah area and carried out a number of mock attacks.

At 1830 hours the environs of Shaqra, Bra'shit and Majdal Silm came under Israeli artillery bombardment. Some 15 shells of various calibres fell in the area.

At 1915 hours Israeli military aircraft made medium-altitude overflights of the Qa'qa'iyat al-Jisr, Kafr Dijjal, Zawtar al-Sharqiya and Zawtar al-Gharbiyah areas and along the Litani river.

At 2300 hours the environs of Nabatiyah al-Fawqa came under Israeli artillery bombardment and bursts of machine-gun fire.

2 December 1997

At 0300 hours the bombardment of the environs of Nabatiyah al-Fawqa, Kafr Rumman and the abandoned Lebanese Army barracks ceased.

At 2030 hours the environs of Mayfadun and the Shukin - Kafr Dijjal road came under Israeli artillery bombardment.

At 2155 hours Israeli military aircraft made overflights of the Maydun, Ayn al-Tinah, Libbaya, Zillaya, Qilya and Jabal Abi Rashid areas and were met by ground-based anti-aircraft fire from units belonging to the Lebanese Army.

5 December 1997

At 0145 hours Israeli military aircraft made medium-altitude overflights of the Nabatiyah and Iqlim al-Tuffah areas and carried out mock attacks.

At 1830 hours the environs of Tibnin, Ayta al-Jabal, Haddathah and Bra'shit came under Israeli artillery bombardment.

During the night of 4/5 December 1997, Israeli forces surrounded the town of Kafr Killa in the Marj Uyun district and prevented citizens from entering or leaving it for security reasons.

At 1830 hours the Lebanese Red Cross took Nabil Habib Baydun from Bint Jubayl to al-Najm hospital in Tyre. He had received head injuries from armed men belonging to the Lahad militia. His family house in Bint Jubayl was set on fire.

During the night of 5/6 December 1997, the environs of Sfariyah, Anan and Kafr Falus came under Israeli artillery fire of various calibres, which continued until 0900 hours on 6 December 1997.

6 December 1997

At 0400 hours the environs of the abandoned Lebanese Army barracks in Nabatiyah al-Fawqa came under Israeli artillery bombardment.

At 1145 hours the environs of Luwayzah, Jarju', Jba', Arabsalim, Ayn Bu Siwar, the Mlita hills and Jabal Safi came under Israeli artillery bombardment.

At 1400 hours Israeli military aircraft made two successive attacks on the Mlita hills, Jabal Safi and the environs of Luwayzah, firing two air-to-ground missiles. The same aircraft made numerous medium-altitude overflights of the area and continued an intermittent bombardment of the environs of the above-mentioned areas until they withdrew from the airspace at 1545 hours.

At 2030 hours the environs of Tibnin, Haddathah, Ayta al-Jabal, Bra'shit, Haris, Kafra and Yatar came under Israeli artillery bombardment.

7 December 1997

At 1450 hours Israeli military aircraft made low-altitude overflights of Sidon and the nearby camps and were met by ground-based anti-aircraft fire from units belonging to the Lebanese Army.

At 1730 hours the environs of Jba', Ayn Bu Siwar, Jarju', Arabsalim, the Mlita hills, Jabal Safi and areas along the Zahrani river came under Israeli artillery bombardment.

8 December 1997

At 1820 hours in Marimin, the environs of Yatar, Jibal al-Butm and Zibqin, an unknown party blew up a centre which was under construction. It consisted of two rooms and their appurtenances and belonged to the Nepalese forces working with the international emergency forces.

9 December 1997

At 0350 hours the Israeli forces fired a number of missiles and shells from medium-calibre weapons in the direction of the environs of the Dabshah - Ali At Tahir - Qasr Ghandur triangle in the Nabatiyah al-Fawqa district.

Between 0900 and 1100 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft flew over the areas of Tibnin, Nabatiyah, Iqlim al-Tuffah and Sidon at high altitudes.

At 2110 hours the environs of the abandoned Lebanese Army barracks in Nabatiyah al-Fawqa came under Israeli artillery bombardment.

10 December 1997

At 0155 hours the Israeli forces fired a number of artillery shells from their post in Tallat al-Dabché on the environs of the abandoned Lebanese Army barracks in Qasr Ghandur.

At 1915 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft flew over the area of Sidon East at high altitudes.

11 December 1997

At 0445 hours an Israeli military launch at sea off the coast at Ra's al-Ayn fired a number of rounds from medium-calibre weapons in various directions.

At 1300 hours the Israeli forces fired a number of artillery shells on areas along the Litani river.

13 December 1997

At 1900 hours Israeli military aircraft made medium-altitude overflights of Nabatiyah and Tyre.

14 December 1997

Between 1450 and 1520 hours the Israeli forces sporadically fired a number of rounds from medium-calibre machine-guns towards the abandoned Lebanese Army barracks in Nabatiyah and the environs of Arnun.

15 December 1997

Between 1900 and 1910 hours Israeli military aircraft twice attacked the Na'imah hills and fired two missiles. They were met by ground-based anti-aircraft fire from units belonging to the Lebanese Army.

16 December 1997

At 0820 hours the Israeli forces fired a number of artillery shells on the environs of Haddathah.

17 December 1997

At 1330 hours Israeli military aircraft made high-altitude overflights of Nabatiyah.

At 2130 hours the environs of Nabatiyah al-Fawqa and the abandoned Lebanese Army barracks came under Israeli artillery bombardment.

18 December 1997

At 0945 hours Israeli military aircraft made repeated low-altitude overflights of the Iqlim al-Tuffah area and carried out mock attacks.

19 December 1997

At 0500 hours the Israeli forces fired a number of artillery shells on the environs of Haddathah and Sribbin.

At 1235 hours areas along the Litani river towards Zawtar al-Sharqiyah and the environs of 'Alman and Bra'shit came under Israeli artillery bombardment.

20 December 1997

At 0135 hours the abandoned Lebanese Army barracks in Nabatiyah, the environs of Kafr Rumman and Jabal ar Rafi' came under Israeli artillery bombardment and bursts of machine-gun fire from medium-calibre weapons.

21 December 1997

At 1115 hours Israeli military aircraft made medium-altitude overflights of Nabatiyah and carried out mock attacks over the Iqlim al-Tuffah area.

At 2154 hours the environs of Mansuri, Majdal Zun, and Al 'Izziyah in Tyre district came under Israeli artillery bombardment. At 2210 the bombardment was extended to include the environs of Zibqin, Jibal al-Butm and Siddiqin. It continued sporadically until 2220 hours.

22 December 1997

Between 0530 and 0630 hours the environs of Zibqin, Jibal al-Butm, Majdal Zun and Mansuri came under Israeli artillery bombardment.

At 1330 hours Israeli military aircraft made low-altitude overflights of the Iqlim al-Tuffah area.

At 1500 hours Israeli military aircraft made low-altitude overflights of the Nabatiyah area.

At 1730 hours Israeli military aircraft resumed their low-altitude overflights of the Nabatiyah area.

23 December 1997

At 0500 hours the environs of Arabsalim, Jarju', Ayn Bu Siwar, Wadi Kafr Fila, Jba', the Mlita hills and Jabal Safi came under Israeli artillery bombardment. At the same time, Israeli military aircraft made low-altitude overflights of the same areas. The bombardment ceased at 1030.

24 December 1997

At 1700 hours the environs of Majdal Silm, Qabrikha, Tulin, Wadi al-Qaysiyah, Jumayjimah, Safad al-Battikh, Shaqra and Bra'shit came under Israeli artillery bombardment.

25 December 1997

At 0930 hours the environs of Mansuri in Tyre district came under Israeli artillery bombardment.

At 1100 hours the environs of Mansuri and Majdal Zun came under Israeli artillery bombardment which caused material damage to some of the houses in Majdal Zun.

26 December 1997

At 0400 hours the environs of Majdal Silm came under Israeli artillery bombardment.

Between 1100 and 1700 hours the environs of Jba', Jarju', Ayn Bu Siwar, Arabsalim, the Mlita hills and Jabal Safi came under Israeli artillery bombardment.

27 December 1997

At 1800 hours the environs of Jba', Jarju' and Ayn Bu Siwar came under Israeli artillery bombardment.

28 December 1997

At 1540 hours Israeli military aircraft made two successive attacks on the Mlita hills and Luwayzah. At 1650 hours they attacked the Mlita hills.

At 1545 hours Israeli military aircraft made low-altitude overflights of Sidon and the nearby camps and were met by ground-based anti-aircraft fire from units belonging to the Lebanese Army.

At 1900 hours Israeli military aircraft overflew Jiyah, Sa'diyat and Damur in the Shuf district and were met by ground-based anti-aircraft fire from units belonging to the Lebanese Army.

29 December 1997

At 1830 hours the environs of Arabsalim, Jarju', Jba', Ayn Bu Siwar, the Mlita hills and Jabal Safi came under Israeli artillery bombardment.

30 December 1997

At 1200 hours the environs of Arabsalim, Jarju', Jba', Ayn Bu Siwar, the Mlita hills and Jabal Safi came under Israeli artillery bombardment which stopped at 1500 hours.

31 December 1997

At 1130 hours a number of artillery shells fell in Munshaqah, on the Sidon road, and in Jazzin, near the Sfariyah post. This caused the road to be closed in both directions. The bombardment stopped at 1300 hours.

The Lebanese Government strongly condemns the continued Israeli occupation and these fresh attacks and arbitrary practices inflicted on the Lebanese population, which have caused further serious damage to property.

Like previous attacks, this new series is in flagrant violation of the sovereignty and independence of Lebanon and constitutes a breach of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, of international law and of basic human rights.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 37, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Samir MOUBARAK
Ambassador
Permanent Representative